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199—7.2(17A,476) **Definitions.** Except where otherwise specifically defined by law:

"Board" means the Iowa utilities board or a majority thereof.

"Complainants" are persons who complain to the board of any act or thing done or omitted to be done in violation, or claimed to be in violation, of any provision of Iowa Code chapters 476 through 479B, or of any order or rule of the board.

"Consumer advocate" means the consumer advocate referred to in Iowa Code chapter 475A.

"Contested case" means a proceeding defined by Iowa Code section 17A.2(5) and includes any matter defined as a "no factual dispute" contested case under Iowa Code section 17A.10A.

"Data request" means a discovery procedure in which the requesting party asks another person for specified information or requests the production of documents.

"Expedited proceeding" means a proceeding before the board in which a statutory or other provision of law requires the board to render a decision in the proceeding in six months or less.

"Filed" means received at the office of the board in a manner and form in compliance with the board's filing requirements.

"Intervenor" means any person who, upon written petition, is permitted to intervene in a specific proceeding before the board.

"Issuance" means the date written on the order unless another date is specified in the order.

"Parties" include, but are not limited to, complainants, petitioners, applicants, respondents, and intervenors.

"Party" means each person named or admitted as a party.

"Person" means as defined in Iowa Code section 4.1(20) and includes individuals and all forms of legal entities.

"Petitioner" or "applicant" means any party who, by written petition, application, or other filing, applies for or seeks relief from the board.

"Presiding officer" means one board member, the administrative law judge, or another person so designated by the board for the purposes of a particular proceeding.

"Proposed decision" means the presiding officer's recommended findings of fact, conclusions of law, decision, and order in a contested case that has been assigned by the board to the presiding officer.

"Respondent" means any person against whom a complaint or petition is filed, or who by reason of interest or possible interest in the subject matter of a petition or application or the relief sought therein is made a respondent, or to whom an order is directed by the board initiating a proceeding.

"Service" means service by first-class mail pursuant to subrule 7.4(6), unless otherwise specified.